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Streeter gave a talk on embryology. Luncheon was served at 1 o'clock, after which Dr. Adolf Meyer, head of the Henry Phipps Psychiatric Clinic, lectured on the work of his department. The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to a study of the obstetric departments.

PROFESSOR GEORGE C. WHIPPLE, of Harvard University, as has been noted in *SCIENCE*, has been appointed director of the division of sanitation in the Bureau of Hygiene and Public Health of the League of Red Cross Societies. He has been granted leave of absence from Harvard University for the second half year and will go to Geneva in February, returning to Cambridge in September, 1920. The organization referred to will be virtually the Health Department of the League of Nations, and it will offer exceptional opportunities for sanitary engineers. Heretofore the Red Cross has chiefly engaged in relief work. It is now to add to this work that of preventing disease by improving sanitary conditions. Professor Whipple is a member of the engineering firm of Hazen, Whipple & Fuller, New York City. Another member of this firm, Colonel Francis F. Longley, has been appointed associate director of the division and will go to Geneva about the first of December in order to be ready to undertake emergency work in the Balkans should typhus fever break out there.

THE fall meeting of the Bureau of Personnel Research, which was recently held at the Carnegie Institute of Technology, was attended by representatives of the following cooperative concerns: the American Multigraph Sales Company, the American Rolling Mill Company, the Burroughs Adding Machine Company, the Carnegie Steel Company, the Commonwealth Edison Company, Crutchfield and Woolfolk, Equitable Life Insurance Company, B. F. Goodrich Company, John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company, H. J. Heinz Company, Kaufmann Department Stores, Miller Saw-Trimmed Company, Packard Motor Car Company, Philadelphia Company, Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company E. W. Woods Company, and The Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company. Dr. Bingham, the

head of the division of applied psychology of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, was one of the speakers at the meeting.

A BILL recently has been passed by the Canadian House of Commons creating a federal department of health and providing for a minister of health and advisory committee. The authority of the department will extend to all matters affecting health within the jurisdiction of the Dominion of Canada.

At the recent Bournemouth meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science a meeting was held with the object of eliciting opinions as to whether the recently formed Scientific Research Association should be continued or wound up. Professor A. Gray presided over a small attendance. It was explained by Mr. A. C. Tansley, the acting secretary, that the functions of the new association were the establishment of adequate means of communication and coordination in science, the organization of the endowment for research, and publicity and propaganda. Circulars sent out last spring to 2,000 scientific people had elicited only 230 replies. There appeared to be a certain amount of hostility to the association on the part of leading scientific men, and there was apathy on the part of the general mass of scientific workers. No decision was arrived at, but Professor Gray said that they must press upon already existing bodies the desirability of conserving to the very utmost the interests of pure science.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

A SCHOOL of public hygiene has been established as a separate department of the University of Pennsylvania. This department, which has been under the supervision of the medical school, and which was the first school of public hygiene in America, will continue under the direction of Dr. Alexander C. Abbott as director.

A NEW \$150,000 chemistry building has been completed at the State College of the University of Montana, Bozeman. Appropriate dedicatory exercises will be held on January 14. Professor W. F. Coover, head of the chemistry department of the Iowa State College, will de-

liver the principal address. The occasion of the dedication marks the completion of twenty-five years of service in the institution by Professor W. M. Cobleigh, head of the department of chemistry.

DR. HAROLD HIBBERT has been appointed assistant professor of chemistry in the research department of organic chemistry, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

DR. LOUIS E. WISE has severed his connection with E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, where he held a research position at their Jackson Laboratory, Wilmington, Del., and has accepted the position of professor of forest chemistry at the New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y.

DR. HARLAN H. YORK, head of the botanical department at Brown University, has resigned to take charge of similar work at the University of West Virginia, Morgantown, West Virginia.

MR. G. H. HARDY, fellow and mathematical lecturer of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed to the Savilian professorship of geometry at Oxford University.

DR. JOHN CRUICKSHANK, pathologist to the Crichton Royal Institution, Dumfries, has been appointed Georgina M'Robert lecturer in pathology in the University of Aberdeen.

PROFESSOR C. H. DESCH has been appointed professor of metallurgy at the University of Sheffield, in succession to Professor J. O. Arnold. Since September, 1918, Professor Desch has been professor of metallurgy in the Royal Technical College, Glasgow.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### A SPLENDID SERVICE

APART from the eminent contribution rendered to science and the Pan-American spirit by Dr. Branner in the publication of his fine geological map and monograph,<sup>1</sup> it is a particularly distinguished and generous service to common American interests made by the Geological Society of America at the

<sup>1</sup> "Outlines of the Geology of Brazil; to accompany the Geologic Map of Brazil," by John Caspar Branner, *Bulletin Geological Society of America*, Vol. 30, No. 2, June, 1919.

expense of its own treasury. For the first time the Geological Society has ventured so far afield and freely invested its resources in what might seem at passing glance purely the scientific welfare of an alien country; but it is not to be denied that the claim of fraternity had no little to do with the attitude of the Geological Society toward this enterprise. The bond of geological brotherhood between the United States and Brazil has been a long and strong one. Out of the little village of Aurora on Cayuga Lake, New York, came the first impulse toward the establishment of this tie, when the generosity of the late E. B. Morgan enabled a Cornell professor and some of his students in 1871 to begin the systematic study of the rock geology of the Amazonas valley.

Thus started the Brazilian careers of Professor Charles Fred Hartt and his young associates, Orville A. Derby, Herbert H. Smith and John C. Branner who joined the work in 1874, and their labors are now a historical part of the development of geology on the South American continent. So perhaps it is eminently appropriate that an American Geological Society should now come to the help of one of these pioneers in Brazilian geology and enable him to summarize and commemorate the results of his own and his associates' life-long work in that country. Dr. Derby became a Brazilian subject; Dr. Smith, after a life of rich experience as a scientific collector, recently met a tragic end. Upon Dr. Branner has fallen the mantle, for during his active years he has been a frequent visitor to Brazil and an unrelenting student of her geology. To him thus comes the privilege of preparing the first geological map of the whole area of that vast country so far as exploration has gone, and of setting forth the conclusions drawn by himself and by many colleagues and collaborators in this great field.

This note is not intended to be a review or critique of Dr. Branner's map. It is a most illuminating production, of necessity drawn on broad lines and with a few simple explanatory devices, thus intimating at a glance how much remains for future students of the